



**CITY OF LONG BEACH**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE**  
**COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN**  
**MINUTES**  
**September 22, 2004**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Rebecca Turrentine, Co-Chair, called the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children to order at 5:05 p.m., in the large conference room at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

**Present:**

Rebecca Turrentine, Co-Chair  
Pierre Batton, Co-Chair

Sotheara Chhay  
Fabian Gonzalez  
Helen Ingram  
Kate Levinstein  
Jeanetta McAlpin  
Victor Perez  
Alexis Peterson

Jessica Quintana  
Marc Rothenberg  
Lou Santos  
Mary Soth  
Chanel Soares  
Chelsii Summerville  
Jennifer To

**Absent:**

Jon Meyer (excused)      Christopher Young (resigned)  
Lauren Perry (excused)

**Staff:**

Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Andrew Romero, Youth Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Dan Hendricks, Commission Clerk, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
Christina Santos, Data Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

**Guests:**

Cecile Walters, Neighborhood Services Bureau

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**It was moved by Commissioner Levinstein and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to approve the August 25, 2004 Commission on Youth and Children minutes with alterations pointed out by Commissioner Soth. The motion carried unanimously.**

**III. COMMENTS**

Co-Chair Rebecca Turrentine introduced the Commissioners to the new Commissioner, Commissioner Lou Santos. Commissioner Santos gave a brief speech in which he detailed some of his accomplishments before joining the

Commission, which includes founding a Neighborhood Watch and reaching the rank of Lieutenant in the ROTC at his high school. He also serves on the City's Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force.

Co-Chair Rothenberg congratulated the Commissioners for their efforts at the League of California Cities. He expressed the hope that in future years the speeches last a little longer as he thought they were very interesting.

Commissioner McAlpin also wanted to particularly congratulate the student members of the Commission for the way they handled themselves at the League of California Cities event, particularly in the friendship displayed between the various Commissioners.

Cynthia Fogg thanked the Commissioners for their work, as well as Andrew Romero for his hours of work with the Commissioners and others in setting up the events.

Andrew Romero drew attention to the fact that Commissioner Levinstein was in the band in the morning session, as was the son of Commissioner Rothenberg. Mr. Romero also thanked the adults for chaperoning, and the youth for watching out for each other and ensuring that all youth members from the various DLYACs and the Commission had rides home. Andrew Romero also mentioned that Commissioners Batton and Gonzalez were able to have dinner with the Mayor on Saturday night after the day's events.

Judith Marino, from Long Beach Polytechnic High School addressed the Commission regarding attempting to get help regarding pedestrian safety at the intersection of Jackrabbit Lane and Atlantic Avenue. Ms. Marino said that though there is no crosswalk or stop sign there, the students often cross there, which ties up traffic, causing a big traffic jam every morning and afternoon. She was hoping that the Commission could make a presentation to the city, asking that a stop sign be added or something be done to make that intersection safer. Judith mentioned that Ms. Cheney, a teacher at Long Beach Poly had her class do a demonstration to the city last year. Co-Chair Batton mentioned that Commissioner Meyer is a member of the school board, and would probably be of help in this issue, but that he was not present at this particular Commission meeting. Commissioner Batton suggested that the Commission try to get Commissioner Meyer to work on this issue upon his return. When asked about Council Member's Richardson's response, Judith mentioned that she had not yet contacted Council Member's Richardson's office directly. Cynthia Fogg suggested that as the Commission had been asked to help Ms. Marino in this endeavor, they attempt to gather information for her on how she can get in contact with Council Member Richardson.

#### **IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION**

CYC administrative issues update:

Cynthia Fogg informed the Commission that the Youth Services Network had it's first meeting of the season on September 21, 2004. Giovanni Fillipi made a presentation

on the Youth Engagement Call to Action, to about 60 people that were in attendance. This was followed by a presentation by the Peace Partners Program. The Peace Partners Program is a curriculum for training adults to work with youth and set a positive and peaceful environment. Materials are available in Superintendent Fogg's office should anyone wish to see them.

Cynthia Fogg told the Commission that a video camera had been in operation during the League of California Cities workshop on Friday morning. She plans to create a video showing some of that footage and perhaps show it at the Commission's annual forum.

Superintendent Fogg also showed footage of the Heart of the City interview that she and Co-Chair Pierre Batton did with the Mayor. The interview focused on the creation of the Commission on Youth and Children and its duties. They also focused on the League of California Cities and the change in Commission titles.

#### **V. Co-CHAIRS REPORT TO THE COMMISSION**

Commission Co-Chair Turrentine thanked Commissioner McAlpin for attending the opening and dedication of a clinic for the Commission on Youth and Children.

Commission Co-Chair Batton chose to hold off his comments until such time as the Commission reviewed the League of California Cities, as most of his report had to do with the League event.

#### **VI. REPORTS**

##### **a. Committees**

##### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Commissioner Turrentine and Batton, Co-Chairs (September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting)**

The Executive Committee discussed the Commission's agenda, and discussed the League of California Cities events. The Executive Committee has also been attempting to attend meetings with all City Council Members. Vice Mayor Kell was very enthused about working with the Youth Council and wanted to know as much as possible about the Youth Councils. Council Member Colonna mentioned that job training and vocational skill were of interest to him. Council Member O'Donnell indicated that his major priority was safety. Co-Chair Turrentine reminded the Commissioners to keep the various interests of the Council Members in mind.

**It was moved by Commissioner Soares and seconded by Commissioner Levinstein to receive and file the meeting schedule for meetings with elected officials. The motion carried unanimously.**

**It was moved by Commissioner Chhay and seconded by Commissioner Soth to receive and file the updated CYC meeting schedule for 04-05. The motion carried unanimously.**

**REPORT CARD COMMITTEE** Commissioner Levinstein, Committee Co-Chair Member  
**(September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting)**

The Committee met with contacts from the Department of Health and Human Services, and Cal State Long Beach. They are attempting to consolidate all their data, and to get help in verifying which numbers are most accurate when they encounter differing numbers on the same indicators. The Committee also spoke with the current analyst, Lydia, who will help them get more of the data from the Long Beach Police Department. The Committee also obtained a copy of the 2003 Santa Barbara Score Card, which is helping them in the setup and design of the report.

Cynthia Fogg and Christina Santos then presented their report on the status of the Report Card and reviewed several pages of it with the Commission. They informed the Commission that the document is tentatively titled The Long Beach Youth and Children's Profile. They discussed using a lighthouse as a symbol on the book, and talked about quotes from lighthouses. They planned to adopt the same five outcome areas that the L.A. County Children's Planning Council adopted for their report.

They discussed the option of adding a sixth outcome area of Youth Engagement. After further discussion, it was decided to hold off on voting to include the sixth outcome area at this time.

The Commission pointed out that some of the wording within the report needed to be changed as it reflected the old title of "Report Card". They also discussed adding an additional column on some pages to add a percentage amount to some of the data to make the information easier to read. They also hope to divide the information by City Council district. The Commissioners asked about several possible indicators that could be added. Some were deemed possible, but for others, there didn't seem to be an adequate amount of data to incorporate it into the report. Cynthia Fogg and Christina Santos mentioned that they are still having problems finding specific data for specific age groups in some areas. Additionally, one of their sources, which they believed had full data for most of Long Beach only had about 1/3 as much data as they had thought.

The Commissioners discussed several other indicators that are not currently being studied. They suggested that as part of the report, they include a request for more funding to sponsor studies on some of these areas that they consider important, but for which there is no current information.

**It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Ingram to receive and file the report. The motion carried unanimously.**

**LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES (LCC) PLANNING COMMITTEE** Commission  
Co-Chair Batton, Committee Co-Chair  
**(September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting)**

Co-Chair Batton recapped the events during the League of California Cities. The conference went well, with Friday being the most youth oriented day. Everyone had a lot of fun and learned a lot. The mixer went off well, with a high participation rate, even among the adults at the event. Co-Chair Batton thanked the many Commissioners and staff whom attended the event. He particularly singled out Andrew Romero's work in bringing everything together, and helping to find funding for the event.

It was also suggested that the CYC attempt to hold a similar mixer for the various DLYAC members to increase conversation between the CYC and the various district councils, as the League event was the first time several Commissioners had met with the youth from other districts.

**b. Standing Items**

**I. Education and Youth Strategic Plan**

No report for this meeting

**II. District Level Youth Advisory Councils**

**a. Report on June DLYAC meetings.**

Andrew Romero and the various youth Commissioners present reported on the following schedules for the District Level Youth Advisory Councils.

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <i>District 1</i> | Will now meet monthly instead of quarterly. Discussed Service Learning Hours and students meeting them by joining their DLYAC    |
| <i>District 2</i> | Pending  |
| <i>District 3</i> | Met and talked about several issues, including violence  |
| <i>District 4</i> | Pending  |
| <i>District 5</i> | Pending  |
| <i>District 6</i> | Will be meeting September 8 at 11:00 a.m.  |
| <i>District 7</i> | New person in charge, discussed League of California Cities and the Service Learning Hours, as well as planning Halloween party. |
| <i>District 8</i> | Got basics of meetings planned out as DLYAC is new.  |
| <i>District 9</i> | Discussed opening of new skate park. Recruiting new members and discussed the LCC.   |

**It was moved by Commissioner Chhay and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to receive and file the reports from the September DLYAC meetings. The motion carried unanimously.**

**It was moved by Commissioner Peterson and seconded by Commissioner Chhay to receive and file the reports on the discussions regarding violence and**

**to hold over the outstanding reports until completed. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **III. Youth and Gang Violence Task Force**

Their last meeting was September 13<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Santos attended his first Youth and Gang Violence Task Force meeting. As a follow up to their Youth Engagement Task Force presentation, they had action groups meet to discuss various elements the task force covers. They attempted to engage the various action groups by having youth attend. The Task Force also had a guest speaker, Rev. Larry Ginn, who is very involved in mentoring and parenting programs. The Y&GVTF is also looking for more speakers. They have more youth involved, and are trying to get involved with increasing dialog with parental groups. One of the Long Beach Police Department members of the Task Force was interested in preparing a pamphlet of information for parents that they could hand out when their children were arrested. Cynthia Fogg alerted the Commission that such a thing might already exist through a parent component of the LBUSD. She suggested the Y&GVPTF look into this to ensure they don't make something that is already in place.

#### **c. Report(s)**

**CYC Youth and Children's Status Report** The contents of this report were detailed under the Report Card Committee heading.

### **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. **Anti-Bullying Legislation (April 28<sup>th</sup>, 04)** - The CYC voted at its April meeting to have staff from the Office of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez return with further information on the legislation, including the bill language before deciding upon a position. **Status:** CYC staff contacted Congresswoman Sanchez's office to set up a date for returning more detailed information.
- b. **Long Beach Youth Fund Status:** \$20,000 for one more year, and \$5,000 for the continuation of the CYC. It was suggested that the Fund Board draft a thank you letter to Home Depot and the Mayor's office.
- c. **Youth Services NETWORK Executive Planning Committee (EPC) nomination process for recognition award – Status:** Pending
- d. **Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) Workshops for CYC (May 26<sup>th</sup>, 04)** - The CYC authorized staff to contract with YLI to organize four workshops intended to advance youth/adult relationships and their impact on policy. **Status:** The CYC has now held two of the workshops.

### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

Cynthia Fogg informed the Commission that Council Member Colonna mentioned that the Harbor Commission might be interested in helping fund the Commission on Youth and Children, but the Executive Committee will need authorization to work with the Harbor Commission. Council Member Colonna has an interest helping fund work in Vocational Education and School-to-Work programs, but the Executive Committee

will need to verify that their work will coincide with the goals that Council Member Colonna is interested in achieving. It was suggested that adding ratios of students going from school to careers in Long Beach to the Youth and Children's Status Report might be sufficient.

**It was moved by Commissioner Perez and seconded by Commissioner Quintana to authorize staff to work with the Executive Committee to prepare a point paper for submission to the Harbor Commission. The motion carried unanimously.**

**IX. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m.**

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved by Commissioner Levinstein and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to adjourn the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children at 7:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.**

**This information is available in an alternative format by request  
to Jane Grobaty at (562) 570-3232.  
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accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special  
accommodation is desired, please call Daniel Hendricks  
48 hours prior to the meeting, at (562) 570-3538.**